From: Lea Blanton
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/28/02 8:45am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

January 28, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft US Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I am writing to express my support for Microsoft and the settlement that was reached in November.

Microsoft has pledged to carry out all provisions of this agreement and create more opportunities for competing companies. Under this agreement, Microsoft must license its Windows operating system products to the 20 largest computer makers. Microsoft has agreed not to retaliate against computer makers who ship software that competes with anything in its Windows operating system. The settlement contains many guidelines that Microsoft has fully agreed to uphold.

I see no reason to continue costly and expensive litigation that drives down stock prices and contributes additional uncertainty to individual and organizational purchasing plans in an already uncertain economy. This settlement will serve in the best public interest. Please support the November settlement. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lea M. Blanton 611 Westridge Drive Burlington, NC 27215